Borrowing from World Bank to Finance Primary Education

719. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to borrow money from World Bank to finance primary education in the country;

(b) if so, the amount of money sought to be borrowed; and

(c) if the answer to parts (a) & (b) is in the affirmative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) The World Bank is providing credit for three Basic Education Projects in the country. The Primary Education Projects funded by the World Bank are in furtherance of the national commitment for universalisation of Elementary Education in the country. The UP Basic Education Project was started in 1993 with a World Bank credit of US $ 165 million.

The District Primary Education Programme was initiated in 1994 to cover 23 districts in 6 States with World Bank credit of US $ 260 million. Subsequently, the World Bank has agreed to provide a second credit of US $ 425 million to further expand the District Primary Education Programme.

Ladies special trains in Maharashtra

720. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a big public demand for more focal trains, particularly for ladies specials, during peak hours in Mumbai; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take to meet the public demand particularly for ladies specials in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ladies special trains are already running between Chhatrapati ShivajiTerminus Mumbai & Kalyan and Churchgate & Virar during peak periods. The number of 12-Car suburban services have been increased from 104 to 140 w.e.f. 28.6.96 in Mumbai subsurban area which include additional accommodation for ladies as compared to 9 car rakes. Moreover, Railways are also providing accommodation to ladies separately in other local trains in Maharashtra.

Construction of Railway line between Kendrapara and Paradip

721. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Ministr of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to construct a Railway line between Kendrapara and Paradip in Orissa;

(b) if so, the fund provision made for this Project during 1996-97; and

(c) what are the full details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) A work of construction of a new line from Haridaspur to Paradeep passing through Kendrapara has been included in the Budget, 1996-97.

(b) Rs. 1.00 crore.

(c) The work of final location survey and land acquisition will be taken up as soon as the Budget is passed. Actual construction work would start once land has been acquired and made available by the State Government.

Promotion of Indian Languages

722. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any long-term action plan for the development of Indian languages including Hindi;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether funds have been earmarked for this purpose for 1996-97;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what other measures are being taken by Government for the development of Indian languages throughout the country?